



General Assembly

January Session, 2009

Amendment

LCO No. 6735

HB0665906735HD0

Offered by:

REP. MCCLUSKEY, 20th Dist.

REP. OLSON, 46th Dist.

To: Subst. House Bill No. 6659

File No. 486

Cal. No. 356

"AN ACT CONCERNING THE LEGISLATIVE COMMISSIONERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR TECHNICAL REVISIONS TO THE ENVIRONMENT STATUTES."

1 Strike section 2 in its entirety, and substitute the following in lieu
2 thereof:

3 "Sec. 2. Section 22-26nn of the general statutes is repealed and the
4 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from passage*):

5 (a) The Commissioner of Agriculture may establish a community
6 farms program for the preservation of farmland that does not meet the
7 criteria of the farmland preservation program established pursuant to
8 section 22-26cc for reasons of size, soil quality or location but that may
9 contribute to local economic activity through agricultural production.
10 The commissioner may purchase up to one hundred per cent of the
11 value of development rights directly from an eligible owner, or may
12 acquire development rights on qualifying farmland jointly with a
13 municipality, subject to the appraisal and review required by the

14 regulations adopted pursuant to this section. For the purposes of this
15 section, "development rights" and "owner" shall have the same
16 meaning as in section 22-26bb.

17 (b) If the Commissioner of Agriculture establishes a program in
18 accordance with subsection (a) of this subsection, the commissioner
19 shall, in consultation with the Farmland Preservation Advisory Board
20 established under section 22-26ll, establish criteria for said program.
21 Such criteria shall give preference to farms that produce food or fiber,
22 and at a minimum shall consider (1) the probability that the land will
23 be sold for nonagricultural purposes, (2) the current productivity of
24 the land and the likelihood of continued productivity of such land, (3)
25 the suitability of the land for agricultural use, including whether the
26 soil is classified as locally important soils by the United States
27 Department of Agriculture, and (4) the demonstrated level of
28 community support for preservation of the parcel. The commissioner
29 shall, in consultation with said board, consider mechanisms that
30 encourage continuation of the land in agricultural production to
31 maintain its long-term availability and affordability for future
32 generations of farmers, including, but not limited to, deed restrictions
33 or stewardship requirements.

34 (c) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall adopt regulations, in
35 accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the
36 provisions of this section."